

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:

detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes, wherein each attributes in said directly-assigned attributes were was assigned individually to at least one object in said objects by a user while said user had said computer-readable document opened, and further wherein each of said directly assigned attributes specify individual formatting of one of said objects within said computer-readable document;

creating, automatically, a conversion style element for every detected combination of directly-assigned attributes in the computer-readable document; and

replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said directly-assigned attributes in formatting of said each detected object, wherein an object, in said computer-readable document, having a directly assigned attribute is detected by said method, and a same object, in said computer-readable document, without a directly assigned attribute is not detected by said method.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said creating a conversion style element further comprises creating

a conversion style element for each unique detected combination of directly-assigned attributes.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
opening said computer-readable document in a random access memory of a computer system prior to said detecting operation.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
receiving a request from a user to perform said detecting, creating and replacing operations.
5. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the computer-readable document comprises a text document.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
naming each conversion style element.
7. (Currently Amended) A method of formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:
receiving a request from a user to convert directly-assigned attributes to at least one conversion style element;
detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes, wherein each attributes in said directly-assigned attributes were assigned individually to at least one object in said objects by a user while said user had said computer-readable document opened, and further wherein each of said directly assigned attributes specify individual formatting of one of said objects within said computer-readable document;

creating, automatically, a conversion style element for every detected combination of directly-assigned attributes in the computer-readable document; and

replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said directly-assigned attributes in formatting of said each detected object, wherein an object, in said computer-readable document, having a directly assigned attribute is detected by said method, and a same object, in said computer-readable document, without a directly assigned attribute is not detected by said method..

8. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
a processor; and

a memory storing a method for formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, wherein upon execution of said method on said processor said method comprises:

detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes, wherein each attributes in said directly-assigned attributes were was assigned individually to at least one object in said objects by a user while said user had said computer-readable document opened, and further wherein each of said directly assigned attributes specify individual formatting of one of said objects within said computer-readable document;

creating, automatically, a conversion style element for every detected combination of directly-assigned attributes in the computer-readable document; and

replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said directly-assigned attributes in formatting of said each detected object, wherein an object, in said computer-readable document, having a directly assigned attribute is detected by said method, and a same object, in said computer-readable document, without a directly assigned attribute is not detected by said method..

9. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said creating a conversion style element further comprises creating a conversion style element for each unique detected combination of directly-assigned attributes.

10. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said method further comprises:

opening said computer-readable document in a random access memory of said memory prior to said detecting operation.

11. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a request from a user to perform said detecting, creating and replacing operations.

12. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein the computer-readable document comprises a text document.

13. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said method further comprises naming each conversion style element.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product having stored thereon a method of formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:

detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes, wherein each attributes in said directly-assigned attributes were assigned individually to at least one object in said objects by a user while said user had said computer-readable document opened, and further wherein each of said directly assigned attributes specify individual formatting of one of said objects within said computer-readable document;

creating, automatically, a conversion style element for every detected combination of directly-assigned attributes in the computer-readable document; and

replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said directly-assigned attributes in formatting of said each detected object, wherein an object, in said computer-readable document, having a directly assigned attribute is detected by said method, and a same object, in said computer-readable document, without a directly assigned attribute is not detected by said method.

15. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 14 wherein said creating a conversion style element further comprises creating a conversion style element for each unique detected combination of directly-assigned attributes.

16. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 14 wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a request from a user to perform said
detecting, creating and replacing operations.

17. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 14
wherein said method further comprises:
naming each conversion style element.